

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of November 19, 2009 is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended, and is currently pending in the application. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fujitani et al. (WO 02/102732, using U.S. 2004/0232839 as a translation). For the reasons discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that the amended claim is clearly patentable over the prior art of record.

The present invention is directed to a plasma display panel (PDP) in which a front panel and a back panel are disposed so as to confront each other so as to form an inner space therebetween, and in which a first catalyst (selected out of Pd, Pt, Rh, Co₃O₄, PdO, Cr₂O₃, Mn₂O₃, CoO, and NiO for accelerating the oxidization of a hydrocarbon) and a second catalyst (selected from Co, Ti and Ni for accelerating the decomposition of a hydrocarbon) are provided on at least one of the barrier rib and the phosphor layer so as to be exposed to the inner space and react with a hydrocarbon existing in the inner space. In particular, as discussed on page of the original specification, providing these catalysts in a manner so as to be exposed to the inner space is effective to reduce the residual amount of organic matter in a baking process, and to decrease the amount of hydrocarbons in the inner space.

Amended independent claim 1 recites a plasma display panel comprising a front panel including a display electrode, a dielectric layer and a protective layer sequentially formed on a first glass substrate, and a back panel confronting the front panel and including an address electrode, a base dielectric layer, a barrier rib and a phosphor layer sequentially formed on a second glass substrate. Claim 1 also recites that the front panel and the back panel are disposed so as to confront each other and being sealed at outer walls of the front panel and the back panel with a sealing member so as to form an inner space between the protective layer of the front panel and the phosphor layer, barrier rib and base dielectric layer of the back panel. Claim 1 also recites *first and second catalysts provided on at least one of the barrier rib and the phosphor layer so as to be exposed to the inner space and react with a hydrocarbon existing in the inner space.*

Further, claim 1 recites that the first catalyst is at least one of a catalyst which accelerates oxidization of a hydrocarbon and is selected from the group consisting of Pd, Pt, Rh, Co_3O_4 , PdO, Cr_2O_3 , Mn_2O_3 , CoO, and NiO. In addition, claim 1 recites that the second catalyst accelerates decomposition of a hydrocarbon and is selected from the group consisting of Co, Ti and Ni.

Fujitani discloses a glass paste which, as shown in Fig. 1, is used to form a dielectric layer 104 of a front panel 101. Fujitani also discloses that the glass paste includes a decomposition accelerating substance, which may include a catalyst.

However, Fujitani does not disclose *first and second catalysts provided on at least one of the barrier rib and the phosphor layer so as to be exposed to the inner space and react with a hydrocarbon existing in the inner space*, as required by independent claim 1. In particular, Fujitani only discloses a catalyst provided in the glass paste which is used to form the dielectric layer, and does not disclose first and second catalysts provided on at least one of the barrier rib and the phosphor layer, as required by independent claim 1.

Further, it is noted that Fujitani discloses that the dielectric layer 104 is covered by a protective layer 105 in order to protect the dielectric layer from any sputtering that occurs when discharges are generated between display electrodes (see Fig. 1 and paragraph [0052]). Accordingly, as the dielectric layer 104 of Fujitani is covered by the protective layer 105, any catalyst contained in the dielectric layer 104 of Fujitani is not exposed to the inner space, as required by claim 1.

Accordingly, Fujitani does not disclose first and second catalysts provided on at least one of the barrier rib and the phosphor layer so as to be exposed to the inner space and react with a hydrocarbon existing in the inner space, as required by independent claim 1, and therefore it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by Fujitani.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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